

and translation by Susan Holten-Dall.

The Women's Group, Department of Archaeology, Copenhagen, Denmark.

* * * * *

Archaeologists For Peace

Amongst the variety of archaeological groups, societies, and clubs, a new one has recently been founded: "Archaeologists For Peace" (AFP). This group differs from most other archaeological associations insofar that Archaeology is not the focus and combining theme for the group, but rather archaeologists as a group within society. Thus moving the focus from our shared interest in the past to our shared responsibility for the future.

The group describes itself as a pressure group of archaeologists working for nuclear disarmament. In the statement produced by the group at its initial meeting it is further stated:

"Archaeologists cannot separate themselves from the political and social system they live in, and

major political issues affect our lives and work. As students of human society, archaeologists have a viewpoint on nuclear weapons. They could feel pessimistic, since human societies have destroyed themselves and each other throughout the past. They could feel that from the archaeological time perspective, political actions are insignificant. They could feel that campaigning on the issue would bring them into disrepute or conflict with their employers. AFP would acknowledge these views, seek to answer them, but would not be deterred from its aims."

"Archaeologists are trained in studying political and social organisations in the past: they also ought to look at the future of our society and take responsibility for that future."

AFP hopes to be established in time to be represented at the CND rally in October 1984, and further information can be obtained from The Treasurer: Hilary Major, 57A South Street, Braintree, Essex, CM7 6QD.

* * * * *

The Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles

Another aspect of potential archaeological involvement in the present is, of course, the issue of restitution of cultural properties. Within this context the discussion and policy-making concerning the Parthenon Marbles is extremely interesting. Following on our

previous coverage of this debate, we call attention to the decision in April this year of the British Government to reject the request from the Greek Government for the return of the Marbles to Greece. The rejection was mainly explained by references to legislation which, according to the Government, prevents the British Museum from disposing of its objects. The